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United States Department of Agriculture

Fall Color Hotline: 1-800-354-4595; press 9 for Eastern Region



Eastern Region Fall Color Report

Report for October 23, 2013

[Chequamegon-Nicolet National Forest \(WI\)](#)

Currently snow is blanketing trees at fall color peak on the Chequamegon-Nicolet. This marks the end of this year's foliage season in Wisconsin's North woods. If you are exploring the Forest take a hike into the woods for a glimpse of the best remaining color.

[Chippewa National Forest \(MN\)](#)

Late October has brought some pleasant surprises! While snow and wind have pulled many leaves down, there are some beautiful orange maples, maroon oaks and yellow aspen decorating the Chippewa. An early morning drive highlights the smokey gold tamaracks in the wetlands, which are absolutely gorgeous and a true sign of late fall. Grouse hunters are happy to see the leaves drop, but we hope the tamarack's needles hang on for a little longer! Though there is still some good late color along the southern end of the Forest; with snow flurries in the air, the various colors will soon be replaced by winter white.

[Hiawatha National Forest \(MI\)](#)

Though, Forest-wide the end of Fall Color is near; you can still see some vibrant colors. The tamaracks are still a magnificent and glowing yellow on the west side, and there many patches of colorful maples and under-story beeches remaining. Plan your trip now to catch a glimpse of the fading fall colors!

[Hoosier National Forest \(IN\)](#)

In the past three weeks, the Hoosier has had some major changes. There is some beautiful color in the early stages. A glimpse of peak color can be found, but most of the color is just hinting at what's to come. With cooler nights on the horizon, we predict some gorgeous colors in the Forest very soon. In nearby towns the maples and gums are strikingly beautiful. The deep reds and oranges of the trees along with the shrubs and vines add to the blanket of hues making it truly feel like fall. There are many local festivals going on right now. Come take a drive, go for a hike, and/or enjoy a campout this week-end. Be sure to pack your woolies, as the forecast predicts temperatures in the low to mid 50s during the day with a slight chance of rain, and down to the 30s at night.

Want even more information? Visit the National Fall Color site [{link}](#)

Huron-Manistee National Forest (MI)

Fall color has come and gone on the Huron-Manistee. You can glimpse a few trees hanging on to their fall color here and there; but time is running out with snow predicted this week.

Ottawa National Forest (MI)

Well, another season of beautiful fall color has just about come and gone. What's left on the Ottawa? Well, a few maples and some golden yellow aspen sprinkle the Forest. It seems the aspen serve as a "nightlight" in the Forest during cloudier days. There may still be some good photo opportunities, even with a recent sprinkling of snow. You may find a little more color near the shore of Lake Superior, as those trees are usually the last to turn color and lose their leaves. Now is the time to come visit, take a scenic drive or walk through the Forest to enjoy the last of fall color.

Shawnee National Forest (IL)

Located in the southern part of Illinois, the Shawnee Hills are on the verge of entering peak fall color season. Cool nights and warm daytime temperatures have begun to trigger the hardwood forests to change to various colors of yellow, orange and red. Presently, the variety of maple species and tulip poplar trees are turning bright red and yellow, while the smaller sumac tree are displaying a dark purple to brown. The area's walnut trees have already lost their leaves. With a forecast of cooler temperatures over the weekend, forest foliage on the Shawnee National Forest will start to change dramatically in the next week. Estimated peak is **October 26 - November 2**.

Superior National Forest (MN)

Most leaves now blanket the Forest floor; however, there is still some clinging to the trees. Snow has introduced a new color to the landscape – winter white! This is actually a wonderful time to visit the Forest to glimpse nice contrasts between areas and wildlife. Visit our webpage (www.fs.usda.gov/superior) for the most current updates, or better still, visit the Forest in person!

Wayne National Forest (OH)

Lots of leaves are starting to fall with beautiful color in many parts of the Forest; though the color may not be as vibrant as in past years. We speculate it may be due to a recent abundance of rain. However, the color is still very pretty. Some areas have an abundance of every color on the pallet of orange and yellow and red, others are predominately browns, and others areas still are mostly green. So it's interesting to drive through the Forest and see the variety of fall foliage even within a short distance. Pumpkins and fall decorations abound in rural areas, and farmers are getting in their crops so be careful on back roads of farm equipment working late when you come out to enjoy the color. A cold front is coming through this week with the first frost of the season so we suspect this is peak week on the Wayne!

White Mountain National Forest (NH)

Colors are past peak throughout most of the White Mountain, but it was a glorious season! There is still some good color in lower elevations (primarily bright yellows and oranges). Along the Kancamagus Highway be on the lookout for the impressive yellow in our "tamarack swamp" about 10 miles from Conway. Tamaracks are one of the few conifers that change color and lose their needles annually. Another travel tip: side roads are just as beautiful as the main roads, but with a lot fewer people. Finally, with foliage largely fallen, the long-range views are more impressive than ever! Expect snow to cover the higher summits adding a nice contrast to your photos. Click [here](#) to check out how our foliage has changed since mid-September.

Upcoming Events

It's Bat Week! Take this opportunity to learn some more about our bat friends & how you can help
(<http://batslive.pwnet.org/>)

Thursday, October 24, 2013

Bat Day at Kawishiwi!

In honor of National BatWeek, the Superior National Forest will partner with other agencies to share the importance of bats and the threat of White-Nose Syndrome through various tools such as videos, bookmarks, posters, and activity guides.

Time: 6:00—9:00 p.m. (CDT)

Location: Superior National Forest - Kawishiwi Ranger District Office, 1393 Hwy 169, Ely, MN 55731

Contact: Kris Reichenbach, 218-626-4393 or kreichenbach@fs.fed.us

Friday, October 25, 2013

Critter Hike!

Join Forest Service employees for an evening of discovery and learning exploring nocturnal animals of southern Illinois.

Time: 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. (CDT)

Location: Shawnee National Forest, Lincoln Memorial Picnic Grounds – 521 N. Main St., Jonesboro, IL

Contact: Amanda Patrick, 618-253-1031 or apatrick@fs.fed.us

Friday, October 25, 2013

“Battle for Bats: Surviving White Nose Syndrome” viewing hosted by the Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

Time: 10:00 a.m. (EDT)

Location: AFWA's Conference Room – 444 North Capitol Street NW, Suite 725, Washington, DC.

Contact: ACHOUDHURY@FISHWILDLIFE.ORG

Friday, October 25, 2013

Shingobee Howl O Ween Event

Everyone is invited to this family friendly annual event held at the Chippewa National Forest's Walker Ranger District's Shingobee Hills Recreation Area. In honor of National BatWeek, this year's theme is “Going Batty!” Activities include a scavenger hunt, a hike up a pumpkin-lit trail, and a campfire with roasted marshmallows and hot chocolate. Friendly critter costumes are welcome.

Time: 6:00 – 8:00 p.m. (CDT)

Location: 201 Minnesota Avenue, East, Walker, MN 56484

Contact: Chippewa National Forest's Supervisor's Office, 218.335.8658

Friday, October 25, 2013

“Battle for Bats” Featured at Belle Isle Nature Zoo's Boo at the Zoo!

In honor of National BatWeek, the “Battle for Bats: Surviving White Nose Syndrome” video will be shown at the Belle Isle nature zoo continuously from 10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. as part of their “Boo at the Zoo festivities. The Forest Service will be on hand at the showing.

Time: Throughout the day (10 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. (EDT)

Location: 1928 East Lakeside Drive, Detroit, Michigan 48207

Contact: Lisa Perez, Urban Connections Coordinator, at 313-494-4735 or lperez@fs.fed.us